2 May 69

Harold:

As long as you are shooting, you may as well try this. This may have evidentiary value on the question whether CE 399 was used in the assassination.

When Frazier testified regarding the character of the nose of CE 399, he mentioned that it was marked only by very fine striations (which I take to be cotton).

CE 399 is supposed to have passed through the coats of both Kennedy and Connally, both of which are caurse materials.

The best procedure is this: Get materials matching the fabric of JFK's or Connally's coat (or both). Fire 6.5mm bullets through the fabrics at appropriate distances, but make sure that the bullet will be trapped by something soft after it passes through the fabric. It would be best to wrap the fabric around something simulating flesh, for the fabric should be pressed on one side by the bullet and on the other by flesh.

I think that you will get fabric marks on the nose of test bullets. You can use them for comparison with CE 399 which has no fabric marks.

If you want me to write this up after you do the test, I will. It should not take long at all. This matter doesn't bear on what I am doing now, however, so I can let it wait.

Dick

Bernabei

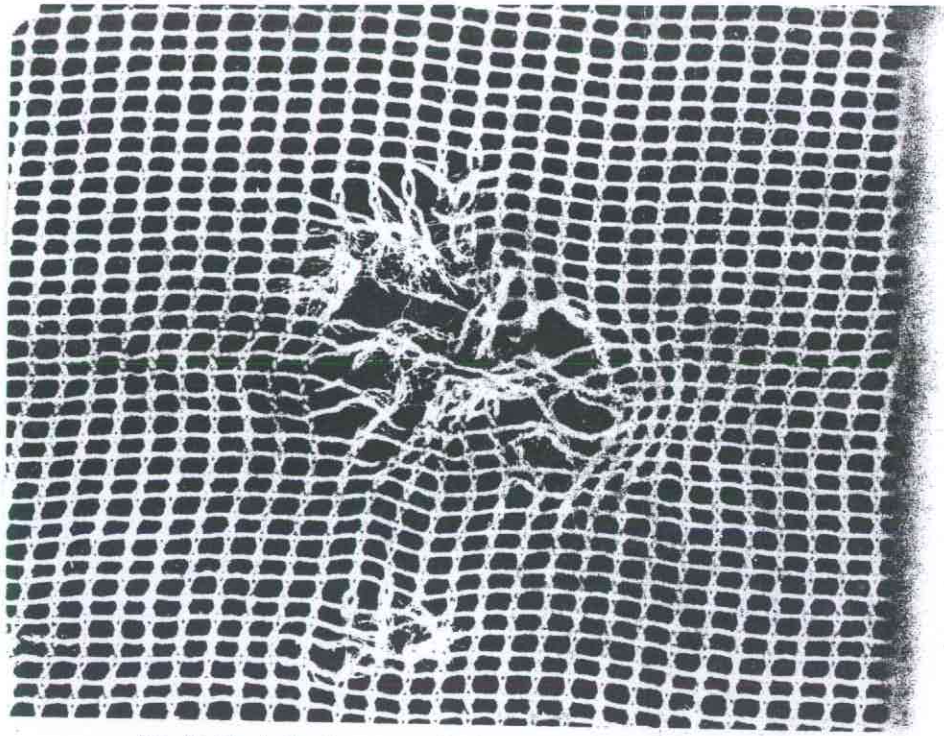

FIG. 35: The body of a woman who disappeared was found several weeks later in a canyon. The soft tissues were entirely gone and all that remained was the skeleton and some clothing. A hole was noticed in the brassiere (greatly magnified).

are many homicides by guns using old revolver ammunition still loaded with black powder.

CLOTHING MARKS ON BULLETS

A lead bullet fired from a revolver may strike a person wearing clothing which has a hard coarse weave. In such an instance the weave of the cloth is often stamped onto the nose of the bullet. If such a bullet is discovered in the investigation of a death it may be the only proof that a murder has been committed. The body may have been dead for a long time before being discovered so that all evidence of gunshot wounds and the track of the bullet are entirely obliterated. Consequently, whenever a lead bullet is found, before the surgeon or officer scratches his identification mark upon the bullet ***he should examine it carefully for evidences of the clothing pattern.*** If such a pattern is

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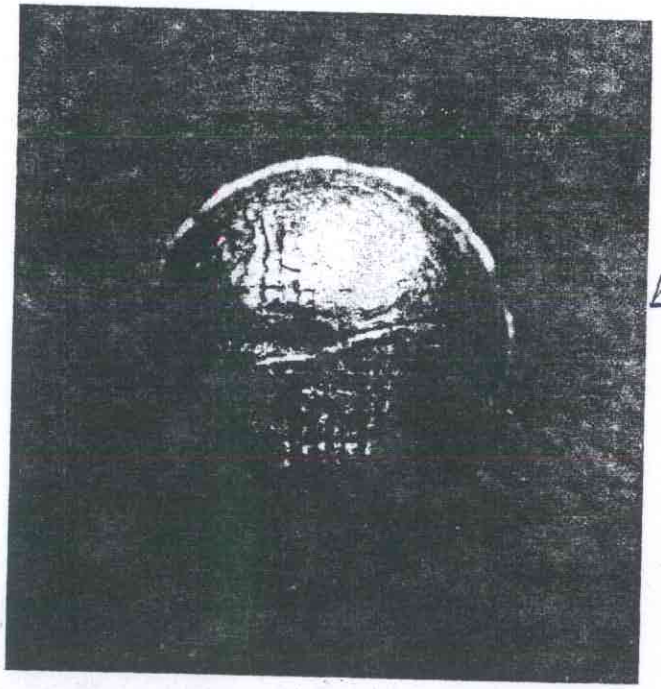
found care should be taken to avoid mutilation of this pattern with his identification mark (see Figure 36).



BULLET NOSE

FIG. 36: Fabric mark on bullet. Embedded in the earth directly underneath the body was found this bullet. The weave of the brassiere can be plainly seen on the nose. This was proof that this bullet had passed through the body and that the shooting took place with the body in the position in which it was found. (Figs. 35 and 36: Courtesy of Leland V. Jones, Los Angeles.)

COMPARE WITH CE 399 (THE COPPER CASE MAY MAKE A DIFFERENCE, BUT I THINK NOT.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS OF GUNSHOT WOUNDS

On arrival at the scene, the investigating officer may be confused as to what was the mechanism causing death. If it seems likely that gunshot wounds were the cause, he should try to determine four things: